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In Memoriam.

NATHANIEL JEREMIAH BRADLEE.



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In Memoriam.

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NATHANIEL JEREMIAH BRADLEE.

BORN, JUNE 1, 1829. DIED, DEC. 17, 1888.

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BRIEF SKETCH.

SELDOM has there been a greater shock to a wide circle of friends in the business and social world of Boston than came in the sudden death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE. The week before, the day before, the hour before, he had been in their midst. His cordial greeting had just been exchanged with them, his kindly words seemed just spoken. They were looking to him in a hundred ways for suggestion, advice, and guidance. Life, with its crowding interests, seemed to need him as it has few men. Not only was his death keenly felt in the business community, but to more than one quiet home where he had been the trusted adviser in all financial matters there came a sense of an irreparable loss, as if the very foundations were giving way.

Because his life touched so many lives, this memorial of it, gathering up some details of his history and some of the words spoken by his friends, may be of interest. If it contains incidents of a more personal character than would naturally belong to a public record, it is because it is meant for the eyes of those who knew him best, to whom whatever concerned the man they esteemed and trusted and loved would especially appeal.

Born in Boston, educated in Boston, and living always in Boston, Mr. Bradlee was emphatically a Boston man. It may, however, be of interest to glance at the English ancestry from which he sprung. The records do not give an unbroken line of descent, but in the centuries we have glimpses of John Bradley, who was Bishop of Shaftesbury in 1539, of another John Bradley who was ensign in Henry the Eighth's army, and of Thomas Bradley, who was chaplain to Charles the First. About this time there is mention of the Bradleys in New England. Nathan or Nathaniel Bradley of Dorchester, born in 1631, was an

ancestor in the direct line. In 1668 he owned two acres of the "Great Lots," and the records show that he was sexton of the town, and was to "ring the bell, cleanse the meeting-house, and to carry water for baptism." His grandson, Samuel, was the first to change the name from Bradley to Bradlee, because, tradition says, "the Bradleys in Dorchester were so numerous that mistakes were made." Among the twelve children of this Samuel Bradlee were four sons, who, burning with patriotic zeal, joined the band of young men on the memorable evening of December 16, 1773, and filled Boston harbor with the obnoxious tea-chests. A sister worthy of these brave brothers was Sarah Bradlee, who assisted them in disguising themselves as Indians on that eventful night, was herself an eyewitness of the daring deed, and then hastened home that she might have ready copper kettles of hot water to remove all traces of the bold adventure. So promptly did she act, that when, a little later, a British officer put his head within the door, there was no sign of the late escapade. Nor did her interest in the

patriot cause stop here, for she was one of the women to help dress the wounds of the soldiers who fought at Bunker Hill. It is no wonder that, as the annals say, "General Washington honored her with a visit."

One of the four brothers to take part in the Boston Tea-party was Nathaniel. A builder himself, he erected in 1771 the substantial house still standing at the corner of Hollis and Tremont Streets, and here eight of his children were born. From this Nathaniel Bradlee of the last century his grandson and namesake inherited, we doubt not, his bent for architecture, and not less, perhaps, the genial nature which gained for the grandfather the title of "favorite son and brother," and won for the grandson his host of friends and his name of "the most friendly man that one might know."

In the home in Hollis Street was born, November 7, 1778, Samuel, fifth child of Nathaniel and Ann (Dunlap) Bradlee. As he grew to manhood he showed those sterling qualities which made him a worthy type of the old-time merchant.

Strictly upright, thoroughly reliable, scrupulous in details, cautious in business enterprises, benevolent in the distribution of his wealth, he has left to his descendants "the memory of an unblemished reputation and the example of a consistent fidelity."

On July 31, 1817, he brought to his Pleasant Street home, which then looked out on an open green field lying between Pleasant and Eliot Streets, his second wife, Elizabeth Davis Williams. She was a granddaughter of Caleb Davis, the first Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and a daughter of Jeremiah and Matilda (Davis) Williams. The Williams family has been one of note in the history of New England ever since the early days. One of its members was a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and there have been many of the family to hold honorable place in church and state. Those who are familiar with Mr. Bradlee's home on Highland Street will remember the family portraits by Copley. They are paintings of Jeremiah Williams and his wife Matilda, the maternal grandparents

of Mr. Bradlee, and in these faces we trace in a marked degree some of the features of their descendants.

Of the eight children of Samuel and Elizabeth (Davis) Bradlee, the eldest, a son, died at the age of twelve, and the five daughters in early womanhood. The father and mother were spared to one another, and to their two surviving sons, for years of tranquil married life, and together they saw their golden wedding-day. It seemed a strange coincidence that the separation should have come directly after, for it was the next day, August 1, 1867, that the sudden death of Mr. Samuel Bradlee occurred. The only member of the family now living is the youngest son, Rev. Caleb Davis Bradlee, of Boston.

About 1826 Mr. Samuel Bradlee moved to No. 1 Avon Place, occupying a house on the site of which the store of Jordan, Marsh, and Company now stands. Here was born, June 1, 1829, the seventh child, Nathaniel Jeremiah Bradlee. From an old-time friend of the family we have glimpses of life in the early home, to which friends were

always hospitably welcomed. She speaks of the lovable nature of the wife, which endeared her to the family circle into which she came. A woman in whom her friends could freely confide, she as freely gave the comfort and sympathy they sought, for "in her tongue was the law of kindness." The sweet, strong personality of the mother pervaded the household, and she was as unselfishly devoted to the son and daughter whom she found in the home when she came to it, as to her own boys and girls. The children had their pleasures and recreations, but the spirit of the family encouraged earnest application to school and home duties; for though it was a home of comfort and affluence, they were expected to share in its practical work. An incident shows better than any words, perhaps, the atmosphere of the place. According to the custom of those days, the New Year was the time for the interchange of gifts and good wishes, and the mother suggested one year that each child should write the New Year's greeting in verse as the condition upon which the presents should be received. The childish rhymes,

on scraps of paper yellow now with age, are still in existence, and show a sprightly aptitude for children of eight, ten, or twelve. In such a home, and with such parents, it is not strange that the son grew up with the high standards which he possessed.

In Miss Healey's private school for children he learned his first lessons. His later education was received at Chauncy Hall, from which he graduated in 1846. At the close of his school life he entered the office of Mr. George M. Dexter, in Boston, for the study of architecture, which he had chosen as his profession. He remained here for ten years, — years of busy conscientious labor, for the young architect found plenty of work waiting for hand and head, and did it with his might. In those early years, as in later times, he threw his whole self into whatever he did. There was never any half-hearted labor with him, but careful, painstaking devotion to his profession. People recognized this, and were already putting into his hands work of an important and responsible nature.

In 1856 he became Mr. Dexter's successor. From this time until 1885, when the press of other business—the immense trusts, private and public, which had been committed to him—made it necessary for him to give up his chosen profession, few architects in Boston held so prominent a place or had so wide a practice. He designed over five hundred structures in Boston alone, some of which are the buildings of the New England and Union Mutual Life Insurance Companies, the Suffolk Savings Bank, the Young Men's Christian Union, and the New South, Second, and South Congregational churches. His work as an architect was always of the most substantial and enduring character,—work in which there were no flaws of construction, no make-shifts, no questionable materials allowed; all was as honest, as reliable, as trustworthy, as the character of the man who planned it.

In 1869 a task was intrusted to him by the city of Boston of a more critical and difficult nature than often falls to the architect even in these days of mechanical miracles. This was the removal

of Hotel Pelham, on the corner of Tremont and Boylston Streets, made necessary by the widening of Tremont Street. The building, somewhat irregular in outline, covered about fifty-eight hundred square feet, and weighed, it was estimated, ten thousand tons. Larger structures than this have been raised, but none of equal size removed, and many doubted the possibility of its accomplishment. With a far-seeing skill which provided for every detail, and a resolute will which surmounted every obstacle, Mr. Bradlee planned and carried through this herculean labor, and in so perfect a manner that the occupants of the building were scarcely aware of their novel position, and were never disturbed in their usual occupations. A single incident illustrates the careful way in which details were personally attended to in this matter.

A friend met Mr. Bradlee one morning opposite Hotel Pelham, while the moving was in process. "How do you know but the stability of the building will be impaired?" said this friend.

“Every precaution has been taken to guard against this,” was the answer, “and I shall know it if it is; for I have myself pasted thin paper over every crack now in the walls. I do not think a single one will increase.” Careful examination after the building was in place showed that he was right.

Thousands of citizens watched the progress of the work, and felt a just pride in its successful accomplishment. Even the workmen seemed to have a personal interest in the matter, and when it was announced that the great structure had completed its journey and was once more on solid foundations, the army of laborers poured out from the building in all directions, came to the front, and gave three rousing cheers. The undertaking attracted wide attention in all parts of the country, and accounts of the way in which it was done were published in English, French, and German newspapers.

Of the confidence reposed in Mr. Bradlee professionally, not only by the city of Boston, but by his native State, New England, and the country

at large, there are many evidences. Over and over again he was chosen as referee or consulting architect in matters where difficulties had arisen or outside advice was necessary. In 1875, Mr. Bristow, Secretary of the Treasury, appointed seven commissioners, the best and most reliable architects and civil engineers in the country, to examine and report upon the condition of the new Chicago Custom-House, and Mr Bradlee was the architect selected from New England.

His connection with the Cochituate Water Board for eight years, from 1863 to 1871, was a matter for congratulation to those associated with him, as well as to his fellow citizens. For the last three years he held the office of President, and it was during this time that the Chestnut Hill Reservoir was chiefly built. In recognition of the interest he had shown, the thought and time he had given to this undertaking, the larger of the two was named the Bradlee Basin. When the press of private duties made his withdrawal from the Board necessary, it was a matter of general regret, for his judgment and skill had been alike

invaluable to the city. Of his thorough acquaintance with the whole subject of the water supply of Boston we have a lasting evidence in the "History of the Introduction of Pure Water into the City of Boston," published in 1868. Illustrated by maps, engravings, and plans, accurate in its information, clear in its style, it is a book of much more than local interest; for it contains information of a practical and scientific character which will make it of permanent value.

While thoroughly interested in politics, national, state, and municipal, he was not a politician; so it was the more remarkable, perhaps, that he should have been twice nominated to the mayoralty of Boston. The first time, in 1876, it was as the candidate of the Citizens' and Republican tickets; the second time, in 1887, to represent the Citizens' party, — a nomination as honorable to the city as to its citizen. His defeat at the polls in 1876, and his own withdrawal of his name in the second campaign, were disappointments to hundreds of his fellow citizens, who felt that into no better hands could the management of city affairs be committed.

It was not necessary that Mr. Bradlee should hold office in order to show his interest in the prosperity of the city he loved. It was proposed to celebrate the centennial of the signing of the treaty of peace on September 3, 1783, by a Foreign Exhibition, which should open in Boston in September, 1883. The Foreign Exhibition Association was made up of public-spirited men, who originated this plan, not only to commemorate the closing event of the Revolution, but to afford to the citizens of Boston an opportunity to see at their very doors the arts and products of other countries, thus giving an impetus to business and a stimulus to education. Mr. Bradlee as President of the Association devoted much time, thought, and material aid to the execution of the plan. It was unique in being the only exclusively exotic exhibition ever held, and not Boston alone, but all New England, was indebted to this company of hard-working men for an enterprise which brought in its largest dividends in the pleasure and profit of thousands of visitors.

In an unwonted degree Mr. Bradlee possessed

the confidence and respect of the business world. So fully did men trust in his integrity, in his breadth of view, in his prudent foresight, that it was natural he should be officially connected with many large corporations. He was President of the Franklin Savings Bank, the Massachusetts Title Insurance Company, the Boston Storage Warehouse Company, the Boston and Sandwich Glass Company, and the Adamanta Manufacturing Company; a Director in the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, the New England Trust Company, the Land Title Guarantee Company of Kansas City, the New England Safe Deposit and Trust Company of Kansas City, the Massachusetts Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the Dwelling-House Insurance Company, a member of the Advisory Board of the Commonwealth Insurance Company of New York, and also a Director of the Improved Dwelling Association, the Rand Avery Company, the Boston and Maine, Eastern, and Maine Central Railroads, and the West End Railway Company.

Reference has been made to the fact that Mr. Bradlee was often selected as referee in matters pertaining to his own profession, but in all kinds of public and private business affairs people turned to him as to few men in Boston to advise and adjudicate. His was eminently a judicial mind. He readily grasped the details of a case, had a clear perception of all its bearings, and gave a judgment as remarkable for its impartiality, wisdom, and sound good sense, as for the promptness with which it was given. Still another trait, always noticeable in his relations to men, peculiarly fitted him for this judicial office. It was his power of reconciliation. A peace-loving man himself, he seemed to have rare tact in bringing together men who disagreed, reconciling their differences, and arranging matters to their mutual satisfaction. A warmly esteemed business friend said, in speaking of this very characteristic, he was "beloved by both builders who wanted structures and contractors who did the building. The two ends so diametrically opposite were held together by the man between, who was the architect."

The business of his later years consisted in the care of estates; for his ability in conducting large negotiations, his absolute faithfulness in the administration of these trusts, and his kindly manner in dealing with men made him one much sought where large property was to be managed. Always a man of method, in the care of the millions committed to him he was a model of scrupulous exactness. Singularly prompt in meeting all his business obligations, he once settled a large estate, and made his first and final report in a week from the time he received his probate papers. To the discharge of these responsible duties he brought the same hearty interest, whether the trust were great or small. Oftener than even his nearest friends knew, he received no remuneration other than the warm gratitude of those whose business affairs he cared for with as much fidelity as if they were to bring the largest pecuniary returns. No client of his ever felt that his interests were slighted for those of another. He could go to Mr. Bradlee, sure always of a ready listener, not merely in financial matters, but in all that con-

cerned him and his. For the trusts confided to Mr. Bradlee often included, as he felt, much more than the care of property, lands and bonds and mortgages. With a generous disinterestedness he threw himself into these other lives, for he was bound by no limits of what was "in the bond." It was a marvel to his friends that he could carry so easily such a multitude of interests. He certainly never could, if he had been a man of nervous temperament; but his was that calm nature and firm will which never allowed the business of one moment to encroach upon that of the next. However pressing his engagements, or wearing his anxieties, or conflicting the claims upon him, his serenity was undisturbed.

But not alone with the interests of the business world was Mr. Bradlee identified. In his Alma Mater, Chauncy Hall, he always felt a filial pride and pleasure, and few Alumni have been of more service to it. For years, and at the time of his death, he was President of Chauncy Hall School Corporation, and did much to give the School financial prosperity. Trustee of the Roxbury Latin

School and of the Fellowes Athenæum, he took a warm interest in both these institutions, and was a no less efficient Trustee of the Bunker Hill Monument Association.

Though not at all a "club man," his social qualities made him warmly welcome at the Roxbury Club. Its first and only President, he was always the cordial host at its meetings, the projector of many plans for its improvement, and the promoter of fellowship among its members. Entering enthusiastically into the aim and work of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association, his connection with it as Trustee, Vice-President, and President infused fresh interest into this time-honored organization.

In the early years of the Young Men's Christian Union and of his own youth he was a wide-awake officer in the Society, and in later years a cordial friend and trusted adviser. Church and parish affairs were matters of special moment to him, even in the press of his secular cares. To him the South Congregational Church, of which he was long an active member, is largely indebted for

the successful arrangement of its affairs when it moved from the old home on Union Park to the house of worship formerly owned by the Hollis Street Church. His generous and frequent gifts, of which many a charitable society, many a needy family, many a suffering man or woman, could tell us, testify to his hearty interest in good works and worthy objects.

Some of the traits which made Mr. Bradlee the efficient, clear-headed, high-minded business man have been suggested; but to know the whole man, one must see him in the social and home circle. Here one found the kind neighbor, the warm-hearted friend, the genial host.

He married, April 17, 1856, Julia R., daughter of George F. Weld, of Jamaica Plain. She died August 11, 1880. Of their five children two died in infancy, and three daughters are living. December 29, 1881, Mr. Bradlee married Anna M., daughter of the late Josiah H. Vose, of Robbinston, Me.

The home in the early years of married life was on Tremont Street in Boston, adjoining the

house of his father, Mr. Samuel Bradlee; but for the last eighteen years it has been in Roxbury, in what was known as the Kittredge place, on Highland Street. This is one of the historic spots in Roxbury. On the summit of the rocky terrace where rises now Mr. Bradlee's observatory, there stood in Revolutionary days the "Lower Fort," the earliest built by the colonists. With its neighbor, the "Upper Fort," which crowned the height where the Cochituate stand-pipe now is on Fort Avenue, it commanded Boston Neck and the road to Dedham, and these two strongholds were considered very important strategic points by Lee and Washington. In the early years of the present century, when the sound of the minute-man's pick and spade had long since ceased on this rocky height, the place lapsed into its former peaceful condition, and was known as "Dr. Porter's cow-pasture." As late, however, as 1826, the ramparts had not been injured, and the embrasures were still shown where the cannon had opened fire upon the royal forces. When Deacon Kittredge, in 1836, built his house, he found that the breastwork of the old

fort obstructed the light on the west, and it was removed. At present, only slight traces of this ancient fortification are to be seen.

It was this estate which Mr. Bradlee bought in 1870, and by rebuilding, improving, and decorating made it the attractive place it is. Here he delighted to welcome his friends, whether in the informal visit or the larger and more ceremonious gathering. Few homes bore so fully the impress of its master's thought and taste and care in its interior decoration and furnishing, or its exterior surroundings. Almost every object, painting, vase, bronze, or marble, had for him a special interest or history, and so was a real pleasure to him; and this pleasure he liked to share with friends. Indeed, there never was a selfish keeping to himself or his family of the pleasant things which had fallen to his lot; the flowers, fruit, and vegetables of his well cultivated garden were often distributed, and Thanksgiving and Christmas were made the occasions for a generous remembrance of neighbors and friends.

The happy inspiration occurred to him one

summer of a series of open-air concerts in the observatory. This "music in the air," ninety feet above the audience, was heartily enjoyed, not only by the specially invited guests grouped on the piazza, but by the thousand or more listeners who lived or had gathered in the vicinity, and for whose pleasure it had been quite as much planned. But nothing, perhaps, better illustrated this kindly spirit of Mr. Bradlee than the wide-open gates, which thus invited visitors, day after day, year after year, into the pleasant grounds, where, as in a public park, little children were free to play, tired invalids to rest, and the passer-by to make it a convenient thoroughfare. A consideration for others, quite as unusual, perhaps, was that which characterized his dealings with those in his employ; and when feeble health or advancing years unfitted them for their former active service, he still took care that their needs were supplied.

In the winter of 1885 a severe illness made it necessary, as he became convalescent, to go South. Accompanied by some members of his family, he

visited, among other resorts in Florida, Altamonte Springs, and was so pleased with the place and its surroundings that he became himself a land-owner. Here he came each subsequent winter for a short season of rest and recreation, which the busy months in his Boston office made an absolute necessity. In the cottage which he built here it was his great pleasure to receive his friends, new and old. It was not merely its setting of orange and lemon trees, Spanish bayonets and young palms, which made the place so attractive, not even its broad verandas, wide halls, and airy rooms, pleasant as these were. Beyond all these, its greatest charm was the genial spirit of the master of the house,—that abounding hospitality which, though truly Southern in its type, had always characterized the Northern home. Those who have shared this hospitality in either place know, better than any words can tell, the cordial atmosphere, the cheery tone, the thoughtful consideration for everybody's comfort and pleasure, which was all pervasive.

From the home were banished always all har-

assing thoughts, all business anxieties, and Mr. Bradlee entered with almost the zest and simplicity of a child into all the family interests and pleasures. Indeed, so completely did he drop all financial perplexities when once he was within his home, that it was sometimes hard to realize that this man, who enjoyed so thoroughly a game of whist or backgammon, or in playful mood bantered a friend, could be the man who held a score of interests in his hand at once, and planned and executed more business in a day than most men in a month. With no expensive habits to be indulged, his manner of life was exceptionally pure and simple. His tastes lay in the direction of a rare piece of china or a fine painting, a book of reference for his library or a scientific instrument, something to decorate and enrich the home, and the pleasures he enjoyed were always those in which his family shared. It was his sunny, unselfish nature which did much to make this a rarely happy home.

In his friendships Mr. Bradlee was singularly steadfast and true, always ready to assist a friend

in whatever need he might have. It has been said that "there is no better test of strength of affection than the ready turning of the mind to the little concerns of a friend when preoccupied with more important interests of one's own." Of few men could this be said so truly as of Mr. Bradlee. Full of pressing responsibilities, he put these all aside, if one went to ask his counsel in some little matter, and one of the busiest men in Boston was ready to listen, and suggest, and advise, as if this "little concern of a friend" were the only interest the world held for him. It was a rare quality, and endeared him to many. "Once a friend, always a stanch friend," it has been said, was his motto, and certainly few men had so many warm personal friends who felt that for them no small share of sunshine and gladness went out of life when he went out of life.

Mr. Bradlee's health had been a matter of anxiety for some time to those nearest to him; for such unflagging devotion of head and heart to the many interests committed to him could not but wear out a body never of the strongest. As one

said, "He had too much public spirit for so frail a constitution." But thinking less of himself than of others, he could not realize that there was need to give up much of this heavy care and take a long season of rest, and more and more the demands upon him pressed and crowded.

The autumn of 1888 found him more than usually worn and tired, but a short business trip West in November brought him rest and change, and he returned so refreshed, apparently so strong and well, that his friends were much reassured.

It was, then, a shock as terrible as it was unexpected when word came, scarcely ten days later, of his sudden death. In the early morning of December 17, apparently in his usual health and with all his wonted playful tenderness, he said good-by to the dear ones of his home. With a friend he took the morning train on the Fitchburg Railroad to attend to a matter of business in Belows Falls, Vt. An hour and a half afterward, as the train neared Leominster, without a moment's warning, death came. There was a sudden weak-

ening of a cell-wall, — a sudden suffusion of the too busy brain, and the active, earnest, useful life had closed. A few hours later, they carried to his home the master of the house, — the only homecoming of his which had ever shadowed the sunshine and happiness of those he loved.

Services

AT

THE RESIDENCE AND AT THE CHURCH.



SERVICES AT THE RESIDENCE.

Invocation and Scripture Reading.

BY REV. EDWARD E. HALE, D.D.

Will you all join me in prayer, my friends?

ALmighty GOD, thou knowest and we do not know. But if we cannot see, we still trust thy love, and ask thee to make thyself father of the fatherless and the stay of the widow.

O Father, make green and fresh every memory of the glad days in which this home has been so bright.

Lift up our hearts that we may look forward, beyond the reach of time, to that other home where we shall come all together, and never be parted more.

Bless us, Father, as we remember those who are not here. We are all in thy presence if we

come together in our desires, and when thy day's services shall come to an end, may we know thee, the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, who art the only Comforter. We ask it in Christ's name. Amen.



Selections of Scripture.

READ BY REV. EDWARD E. HALE, D.D.



Prayer.

BY REV. ALFRED EMERSON.

Let us pray.

THOU ever blessed and glorious Father, now to bear to his final rest one whom we have loved so long and well, we come earnestly to ask thy best blessing to descend and rest on this sorrowing circle of relatives and friends.

Oh, how dark are the dealings of thy hand, how inscrutable thy providence! and as much so in this case as in any other that we know.

Snatched away in a single moment and without a warning, our eye cannot see why it was so. We

cannot understand why there was no time for one single word of parting counsel, one utterance of affection, one kind look of parental love.

We cannot understand why one so much needed should be taken away, — needed in the family, needed in the walks and ways of business, — so many duties waiting to be done by him, so many responsibilities to be borne, as the weeks and months go by.

We cannot tell why it is. We would not ask why. But we would ask, O Father, that upon us all the blessings of thy grace, the fulness of thy love, be manifested in the hour of sorrow and desolation.

O the wealth of our great Father's love! the fulness of his favor unto the children of men! the might of his power! the limitless resources of his hand! What is there he cannot do? We can come and make thee, even in this saddest of hours to some of us, — we can come and make thee our refuge and our strength, and it will be enough.

Oh come very nigh, we pray thee, to this bereaved and sorrowing household!

The father, the better friend, is taken away, — the light of the dwelling, the joy, the rest of the days as they passed on, — taken away in a single moment. But thy love is enough to bring consolation, so that at this saddest hour we all may say, “It is well.” “The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” It is a great deal we ask, but this is the supreme hour when special blessing is needed. Oh multiply, we pray thee, the abundant consolation which thou alone canst give!

O grant unto these sorrowing ones even the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, — heavenly peace — peace and joy of soul!

And, our Father, we cannot forget her who is far away. We cannot doubt that, in sorrow and in tears, at this very hour, she sends her thought back to the home of her childhood and her youth. The Lord watch around, bless, and keep her, and bring to her abundant consolation. We rejoice that her husband can be with us to share the sympathies of this very sad hour.

The Lord grant his blessing and his love to

abide with every relative and friend, whether more nearly or more remotely connected with our dear friend. Multiply unto every one just that measure of favor which is needed at this hour. The business acquaintances and friends of our dear departed, — all who remember him with affection, — we ask, as they pause for a moment to consider how terrible the blow, O may it be with a sanctified use of thy dear will! May they pause for a moment amid the pursuits of business, and consider the great questions of the better life, of God, and of eternity!

And, our Father, remember and bless those who for a longer or shorter period have been connected with this household. They have shared the kindness and the generosity of him who is gone. They have made ready response to the voice they shall never hear again. Be thou ever their joy and their inheritance!

And now, our Father, as we go hence, go with us to the house of God. Aid him who shall bring back to us memories of the past, and still further commend this sorrowing circle to thy paternal

care. Be with those who go to the consecrated home of the departed.

And, our Father, as this family shall return to this dwelling, in which everything bears the impress of his thought and his hand, — as sad memories will return to converse with them for weeks and months, — in the silence, in the sadness, still, our Father, be thou their refuge, and give unto them joy unspeakable and full of glory. In fullest measure we ask thy blessing on every sad soul.

And as we go forward in the paths of life, one by one to reach the end at length, we ask that such may be our life, — a life of trust in our Great Father above, a life of confidence in the blessed Redeemer, a life of wakeful and never swerving beneficence unto our fellow men, — that when we come to the end, though it be as sudden and as sad as that of the dear departed, we shall be ready in gladness to rise and depart, to enter into the joy eternal of our Lord.

And to thy name, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, be all glory forever. Amen.

Benediction.

BY REV. EDWARD E. HALE, D.D.

So may God Almighty bless us and keep us,
so may the Lord Jesus rob the grave of its victory,
and death of its sting for us, that the Holy Spirit,
the present Comforter, who is the Comforter and
the only Comforter, may dwell in our hearts for-
ever. Amen.

SERVICES AT THE CHURCH.

Organ Prelude: *Hymn of the Home Land.*

Prayer.

BY REV. EDWARD HALE.

Let us pray.

ALMIGHTY GOD, help us, as we meet here, to meet here understanding that thou art not far from us, but that thou art in very truth our Father, and that we are thy children.

Help us thus to understand that thou hast love in fulness to have mercy upon us and to send us comfort, that thou hast strength in fulness to give us needed strength; so, Father, may we come to thee, casting upon thee our burden, knowing that thou wilt sustain us. And, Father, help us to understand now that thou, our Father, art the Author of life, the Giver of life; that thou dost

give it to us, thy children, abundantly, and that when thou dost seem to take it from us thou dost take it only that thou mayest give it even more abundantly. So, we pray thee, help and bless us, as the real Head of the family. We ask it for thy name's sake. Amen.



Scripture Selections.

BY REV. EDWARD HALE.



Hymn.

“From lips divine, like healing balm.”



Address.

BY REV. EDWARD E. HALE, D.D.

THERE will be other places and occasions when proper testimony can be rendered as to the services which he has always performed for this city, for the great public organizations with which he was connected, and indeed for the whole

brotherhood of us all. But here, in this church, he is so completely the personal friend of us who have been in the habit of meeting him here, coming regularly to service with him and joining in his intense interest in everything that concerns us here, — I say we are so much a body of friends that you must let me now speak simply of the personal characteristics of the man, of that which made him the most friendly man, — as some one, a real leader in this community, said to me a few years ago, “the most friendly man that you can happen to know,” — a person, indeed, who has rendered, I will venture to say, as hundreds of people in this congregation know, that sort of personal office that they seldom received from others, and which makes us now all regard him as a dear friend.

I don't know when I knew him first, but I do know that from that very early time this was the impress which he made upon me: an utterly unselfish creature, he made himself of no reputation indeed, — that greatest word which was ever said of any one.

And there was always this wish to serve other people, always this wish to be of use to other people. I do not think he in the least estimated his own ability rightly. I do not think he knew how strong a man he was intellectually, or by his education. But whatever he had was at your service, — it was at the service of some one else.

I recollect distinctly, long years ago, when he was in the midst of very important personal and public cares, how readily he would come down with his magic lantern to show the pictures to a lot of street boys in the evening, when there was not any public acknowledgment of it at all, — just a friendly act to a set of boys that had not many friends, and to whom he was willing to show his friendship. And that lasted, as very many of you know, to the very end of his life. He did not seem to be interested in one of those trusts that he had, in any proportion to the pecuniary magnitude of the thing: he would be interested in that trust because there were eighteen orphans, or because there were five and twenty people that had to be taken care of, and his life went into their lives.

Why, it was like a romance to talk to him as he would tell you about the little details of this or that experience. And always it would come out, though he would not bring it out, that he had smoothed over some hard places here, — he had bridged the river, he had made the suggestion by which the orphan or the widow might rejoice.

It is the moral characteristics of the man which, if anything I can say shall be remembered, I would like to impress upon everybody. Undoubtedly there was great intellectual force, undoubtedly there was a very remarkable power of doing a dozen things at a time, of holding a great many different interests in care, — undoubtedly there was a remarkable education for the business he was engaged in.

It seems almost providential, the way he was educated to judge about investments, about real estate, and all that, — there was in that something that made him an important counsellor of the city. But there was at the bottom this intense moral purpose of the man, this strong unselfishness, the simplicity of his character which gave to it its real

force; and I wish that might be remembered by young men whose characters are to be formed.

My friend has read just now the striking passages from Moses's words in Deuteronomy, where he asks that the great centre of religion, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart," may be written on the door-posts of the houses, and even embroidered on the curtains of the altar. Mr. Bradlee was proposing to fill one of the windows in this church with a painting in commemoration of his own dear mother, whom he loved so, and this was the motto that he wanted to place upon that window. I have no doubt whatever that reflected his very earliest days; I have no doubt in the training of that Christian home there was this constant recollection of "the Lord thy God," and this constant love of "thy neighbor as thyself" wrought in upon his mind so that it was associated undoubtedly with his mother, as we shall always equally associate it with him, and it is true that it came into his daily life.

He was not a man who talked about religion

externally, but you were always perfectly safe; when you sounded the very depths, you found that in the midst of care about investments, or care about this or that, there was at bottom a profound feeling that he was a child of God, and that God had made him trustee, first of all, of everything that he had for the good of those around him. You might go to him in any difficulty, or any trouble.

I remember — it has come to me a dozen times a day in these last days — a very particular occasion when I had to consult him in the case of a family in distress, which was all mixed up with fraud and falsehood, and where, if anybody had a right to say, “Why, this is an undeserving set,” he had the right to say it. All he knew was that these were brothers and sisters of his, and he lifted them up out of the depths, and carried them right through, because they were his brothers and sisters; not asking for testimonials of character, or that I should indorse them as saints ready to enter heaven. That was not what he was after; it was that he might help his brothers and sisters.

On these occasions the very simplicity of character, that readiness to speak affectionately and kindly to everybody, — why, a car conductor told me that he had the same sort of tenderness for him that he had for gentlemen who have been most closely connected with him in daily life, — the kindness with which he spoke to young men just coming forward, made them feel the moral purposes of the man, which came in behind him, behind all education, behind all fortunate position, if you please to say so, and lifts us all up, and makes us feel that we have lost a real brother from the home circle, that we can all sympathize with that home which is left so desolate. It was always that which made his home what it was, made it so happy a home. It was this that gave him the power to throw off the largest care, and at home to enter with his family into the simplest and most joyous life. Such a man as that does not die, such a character as that does not die. And it is not simply the words of his lips which remain after he has died.

It is the influence of his life which will be with

us always. Those who loved him best, and were closest to him, will gain the most from it, but we shall gain something. We shall all know, not only that we have lost a leader in this community, not only that we have lost one whom the city little knows how to spare, but we shall know that we have lost a near and dear friend.

There is nothing we can teach each other at such a time. God is the teacher, and we will ask God to bless us in such a pass.



Prayer.

BY REV. E. E. HALE, D.D.

ALMIGHTY Father, thou who art the Comforter and the only Comforter, come home to this family, thou Father of the fatherless and God of the widow, as only God can come, in this home where they will not again hear his voice or see his face, — to those who come to pray here, left from the large circle of those who loved the father and mother, and to grieve at their loss, — to

her who is far away, who prays while we pray, who weeps as we weep. Are we not all in thine arms together now?—to those who have loved him in the household, blessed his name, and felt his kindness,—to all those who have been lifted up from sorrow because he was generous, have been led in darkness because he was wise, and have known what it was to have a friend in him,—to each one of us,—Father, are we not all together in the house of sorrow?—be thou a blessing and a guide.

We do not ask for happiness,—happiness may come or go,—but we ask that we may see thee, hear thy voice, rest in thine arms, go about thy work, have thy strength, have thy light in our darkness,—that thy light may reveal something of the days that are before us. Do come to those who are mourning and in sorrow, and make sorrow for them the very gate of wisdom. Open their eyes, Father, that they may see beyond the veil, even as he sees beyond the veil now, because he has entered into that larger company, where they see as they are seen and know as they are known.

And as he comes into the gates of the city, no stranger there, but where men speak the language and do the things of the heavenly life, may not we look across the vale and see, may not we look over the vast company, may not we enter into the heavenly life?

And help us, Father, that, as we go in and come out, we may see some of the truth of thy love, and enter into that life which shall be to us some day the very joy of God. It does seem to us very dark when we do not understand it. We do not ask to understand it, but we ask thee to come to us so closely that we may rest in thine arms, as little children confide in a mother's love,—that we may rest in thine arms, that we may have confidence in thy strength, confidence in thee. So draw near to this household of mourners. So come to each one of us; so draw near in our sadness, and give strength to each one of us, as members of this state and as members of this city. Show us how to bear one another's burdens, to lift up those who have fallen down, to teach those that are ignorant, to open eyes that are blind, to speak to

ears that have never heard thy voice, to go about our Father's business. Give us strength that we may make the world better than it was because we have been in it. Not in vain let us have known the one who has gone, who made himself of no reputation, who has made men stronger and has made this city better because he has been in it. Draw near to each one of us, on whom thou hast imposed this or that duty to be done, that we may live not for ourselves alone, but for those who are around us.

Father, help us in this church of Christ, which he loved and honored. Help us to go about our Master's work, as those who have taken him by the hand, who have listened to his counsel and would follow in his footsteps. Help us with the poor, that we may righteously relieve them; with the stranger, that we may make him welcome; with those who are in doubt, that we may give them courage. When such a man passes away as he who has gone before, may we feel only the more earnestly the necessity of entering into the work which is never finished, of carrying the

Gospel to those who are needy. He has trusted thy Gospel, he has known the Saviour's love, he has had the blessedness of his own grief, he has borne the grief of those who were dear to him.

O Father, speak to us in this Gospel, that we may know what is the resurrection and what is the life; that he who liveth and believeth in Christ Jesus shall never die.

We bear this burden that we may lay it at thy feet, dust to dust, earth to earth, ashes to ashes. He is not here. This was only the earthly house of his tabernacle; it was frail and weak. And we believe, our Father, that he is clothed upon; that he sees as he is seen, he knows as he is known.

We wait a little longer. We do not know who will be called next, and we do not ask to know; only we know that we are in thy keeping, and all we ask is that we may pass from life willing as he was willing, ready as he was ready, to enter into the joy of our Lord; that we may so use those things that perish in the using that when they fail,

as fail they must, the Father of Light will receive us for his own into everlasting joy.

Father, when we return from these services thou wilt be with us. Thou wilt be with thy servants in this empty house. Thou wilt be with each one of us to-night, as we come to appreciate our loss.

Bless us with thy blessing, strengthen us with thy strength, love us with thine exceeding love: we ask it in Him who robs the grave of its victory and death of its sting. Bless us in Him who is blessing forever and forever. Amen.



Benediction.

So now may God our Father take us and lead us, so may the Lord Jesus rob the grave of its victory and death of its sting for us, and may the present Holy Spirit, who is the Comforter, and who is the only Comforter, dwell in our hearts and in our minds forever. Amen.

Chant.

WITH silence only as their benediction,
God's angels come
Where, in the shadow of a great affliction,
The soul sits dumb.

Yet would we say, — what every heart approveth, —
Our Father's will,
Calling to him the dear ones whom he loveth,
Is mercy still.

Not upon us or ours the solemn angel
Hath evil wrought;
The funeral anthem is a glad evangel;
The good die not!

God calls our loved ones, but we lose not wholly
What he has given;
They live on earth in thought and deed, as truly
As in his heaven.

Resolutions

OF

SOCIETIES AND CORPORATIONS.

RESOLUTIONS

OF

SOCIETIES AND CORPORATIONS.

WHAT Mr. BRADLEE was to the various organizations with which he was connected, their words can best show. From these tributes to his memory, as well as from some of the letters of personal friends, a few extracts are made, to indicate something of the place he held in the city of his birth, the community in which he lived, and the hearts of the friends who knew him best.

At the annual meeting of the Corporation of the FRANKLIN SAVINGS BANK of the City of Boston, held January 7, 1889, the following remarks were made by Hon. FREDERIC W. LINCOLN:—

I have no doubt that the first thought of all, as we gather in this room, is the absence, owing to an act of Divine Providence, of our President, Mr. NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE. . . .

Probably no man in this community, not in exalted public station, was better known in business circles than Mr. Bradlee. From early manhood, he has constantly been engaged in many enterprises and institutions having for their object the promotion of the material interests, as well as the moral and religious welfare, of the people. A long acquaintance with him gives me the right to bear testimony to his zeal and energy, and to the unselfish spirit with which he entered upon the many positions that it was his fortune to fill, at the request of his compeers and fellow citizens. Eminently a man of affairs, and fitted by educational training and taste to conduct them, they yet did not absorb all his time and thought. He was gifted with a clear and penetrating mind, which enabled him promptly to discharge the common duties of life, as well as those demanded on occasions of special emergency. This mental endowment was joined in him, if it was not in some sense produced, by a singleness of purpose and spotless integrity of character which governed his actions at all times. The Psalmist says, "A good understanding have all they that do his commandments." Is not that true in temporal as well as in spiritual matters?

With both of the institutions in this building Mr. Bradlee was connected from the first. In 1852 he as-

sisted in the organization of the Young Men's Christian Union, being one of its first officers; and when, in 1861, the Franklin Savings Bank was established, he was one of the corporators, and remained in the Board as trustee or president until his decease. . . .

As we review his useful career, memory recalls many instances within the last thirty years when, if he was not the pioneer, he was the efficient helper in many "enterprises of great pith and moment." The proprieties of this occasion will not permit an exhaustive statement of his full and well-spent life. Other bodies have already testified, or will hereafter testify, to their appreciation of the value of his services in many departments, both public and private. While his sagacity and judgment were sought in the administration of great trusts, where thousands if not millions were involved, he yet found time and disposition to aid by counsel and advice the most humble. His gratuitous labors are gratefully remembered by many whom he assisted in the extremity of their fortune, or in the period of their disappointment and affliction. He was a good counsellor and friendly helper; and the grasp of his hand as it was extended to you carried his heart with it, and was a token of fidelity, and true brotherhood.

Mr. LINCOLN then offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted by a rising vote : —

Resolved, That we extend to the widow and family of the late NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE our sincere sympathy in the loss they have sustained by his death. While we join with this community in the general sorrow which this event has occasioned, we would bear special testimony to the value of his services to this institution. The wisdom of his counsels, his fidelity to all obligations, his pleasant relations with all those who were associated with him in official circles or private life, the purity of his character, and the courtesy and manliness which distinguished his career, call for grateful remembrance, and for the expression of deep regret that he has passed away from our companionship and from the scene of our mutual duties.

At a meeting of the Directors of the BOSTON SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMPANY, held January 1, 1889, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted by a standing vote :—

The Directors of the Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company, assembled to-day at the first meeting of the new year, are painfully reminded that during the closing days of the year just passed two of our oldest associates have been removed by death from the scene of all earthly labors, and from a companionship especially dear to ourselves and valuable to the interests which have

been intrusted to our care. While we bow in humble submission to the wisdom of the Great Disposer of events, who controls the destinies of all mankind, we would place upon our record a fitting testimony to their worth, and an expression of the grief we feel at their departure from the activities in which we have mutually been engaged.

Resolved, That in the sudden decease of Mr. NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE, in the apparent vigor and strength of active manhood, this community has met with a great loss. His business sagacity and experience, combined with an integrity of character which was always recognized, called him to the successful administration of great trusts of a financial nature. This institution has been especially indebted to him, not only as one of its original founders and as an associate member of the Board, but for his services on the committee who have had in charge its investments, and the control, in a great measure, of its monetary affairs and business concerns. His clear judgment and unflagging industry were always at its command, and we feel that no one of our number has more largely contributed to that substantial prosperity and sound credit which the institution enjoys among its kindred organizations of this city. His large public spirit in the promotion of all enterprises for the growth of Boston, his interest in many benevolent and charitable movements for the improvement and comfort of its inhabitants, his punctilious discharge of all obligations befitting good citizenship, the geniality of his

manners, and the friendliness with which he met all who approached him for counsel or assistance, gave him a position in society which is rarely equalled, and made his influence a blessing to the community in which his lot was cast.

Resolved, That, while we bear this testimony to the outward manifestation and the more public virtues of our lamented associates, we do not forget those graces of character which endeared them to the family circle of their own households. We desire to express our heart-felt sympathy in the affliction which has fallen upon them, with the assurance that the memory of those they mourn will be gratefully remembered by those who shared in their friendship and were benefited by their counsels.

Voted, That the foregoing resolutions be entered upon our minutes, and a copy of the same be transmitted by the clerk of the corporation to each of the families of the deceased.

At a meeting of the Directors of the NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, held January 9, 1889, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by a rising vote:—

Resolved, That by the death of our late associate, NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE, the New England Mutual Life

Insurance Company and its Board of Directors have sustained a severe affliction. He was a man of good judgment and the strictest integrity. His well known conservative views upon those matters with which he was most intimately connected enabled him to look with a faithful eye to the great and enduring interests of the institution. In his contact with men he was urbanity itself. To the Executive of the institution, who for the last fifteen years had been in daily intercourse with him, his loss cannot be thought of without an affectionate remembrance of his kindly nature.

Resolved, That the members of this Board tender to the afflicted family of our friend their individual sympathy in this time of distress.

Resolved, That these resolutions be written out in full upon the Directors' records, as a permanent tribute to the memory of one who served the institution with all the fidelity of a good and faithful servant.



At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the MASSACHUSETTS TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, held December 19, 1888, the following tribute to the memory of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE was presented by Mr. ARNOLD A. RAND, and was adopted by a unanimous vote: —

Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Board: If our meeting to-day is saddened by the knowledge of what we have lost, we ought at least to remember with gratitude all that has been given us. With our heavy loss resting upon us, with the sad vacancy left in our Board, with our hearts still yearning for the friendliness of his heart and the cordiality of his hand grasp, we can but realize that our President is dead, and that we must go on with our work alone. His conservative methods, his cautious but enterprising acts, must still be our guides, and, knowing where he would lead, we can still justify his faith in our project, supplement the present success of which he was proud, and attain the full extent of his expectations.

It is not for us to pronounce his eulogy: suffice it if we may record our appreciation of his manhood and his work. Few men could be more missed by this community, and his death is a public loss. Seemingly not strong or robust, by strength of will-power he overcame any weakness of constitution, and subjected himself to physical and mental exertion from which the strongest might shrink. His life of exacting activity, his interest in all the passing events of the day, the details of his large business, the duties and responsibilities of his many trusts, while they tried and strained strength and vigor, body and brain, always found him equal to each emergency, prompt in action, fruitful in expedients, fertile in resource, self-reliant and self-possessed, — ever ready to lend a helping hand, to listen with willing ear whenever

appeal was made. His kindliness of heart led him to place his shoulder wherever he could aid and help, until it sometimes seemed as if he literally construed and applied to himself the injunction, "Bear ye one another's burdens." And in all this wide intercourse, in all this contact with men, in the administration of his trusts, in the many offices he was called to fill, there is but one record written, — earnest in all action, capable in each effort, resolute for the right, honest in every thought, kindly to all, helpful when help was needed, loving in the bright social circle of which he was a centre. We bring our tribute to his memory, and, mourners ourselves, tender our sympathy to those he loved so deeply and to whom he was so dear.



At a meeting of the Directors of the BOSTON STORAGE WAREHOUSE COMPANY, held January 2, 1889, it was voted that a copy of the following resolution "be spread upon the records of the Company, and a copy of the same be sent to the family of the deceased": —

Resolved, That in the sudden death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE this corporation has sustained a great and painful loss, not only because of the value of his services as President, but because he was a warm and true friend

to every member of this Board of Directors, and was personally known and esteemed by all the stockholders.

It was largely due to his foresight and courage that the enterprise of a Storage Warehouse was undertaken, while his willingness to accept the office of President at the time of its organization inspired a confidence in its future which experience has shown to be fully justified. Chosen to that office on April 6, 1881, at the first meeting of the Company, he continued to hold it until his term of office was abruptly closed by his death. During all this time he served without receiving any salary. In the early days of this undertaking, when it was not easy to decide where to locate or what kind of a building to erect, his knowledge and experience were freely given, and the determination of these questions was largely due to his judgment. He was faithful and indefatigable in the performance of his duties, keeping careful watch of the business of the Company, when at home almost always calling at the warehouse in the morning, and inspecting the daily routine of work, or whatever new plan was in progress. It was a pleasure to us to be associated in business with a man so quick of apprehension and so ready with decision, and it will be indeed difficult to recover from the deprivation of his presence at our meetings, and the loss of his guiding counsel.

Few men have filled at one time so many positions of trust as NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE. Work that would have seemed appalling to most men was easy to him, and he would turn so readily from one difficult problem

to another that such mental labor seemed almost a pastime to him. It will be no easy task for us, for the various institutions with which he was connected, for the thousands of his personal friends, even for the city of Boston, to fill the void made so suddenly and deeply by the death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE.

A meeting of the Directors of the BOSTON AND MAINE RAILROAD was held in Boston, December 20, 1888, and the following resolutions were passed by the Board: —

Resolved, That in the death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE the members of this Board recognize the loss of a devoted and diligent servant of the company, as well as of a trusted and valued personal friend. Chosen a Director in 1871, he from that time forward took a deep interest in its affairs, and brought to them business experience and skill of a high order. His great influence upon all matters submitted to his judgment was not due solely to his good sense and practical sagacity, conspicuous as those qualities always were. It was aided and strengthened by a kindliness of disposition and a uniform courtesy of manner which conciliated all with whom he came in contact, and made his intercourse with his business associates no less agreeable than profitable.

Resolved, That we individually tender to the family of the deceased our sincere sympathy in their great bereavement.

Resolved, That these resolutions be placed on the records, and a copy transmitted by the clerk to Mr. Bradlee's family.

The following resolutions were passed by the Board of Directors of the EASTERN RAILROAD:—

Resolved, That in the death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE Boston has lost one of its most respected and useful citizens, and this corporation is deprived of the services of a valued friend and counsellor. To his associates upon this Board the event has brought with it a sense of personal bereavement. Few men have taken a more active and responsible part in the duties of life, whether they touched the concerns of business or of good citizenship, and few have acquitted themselves with greater success and honor. From early life the community in which he lived gave to him the full measure of its confidence; and his high sense of duty, public and private, and the prudence and sagacity which marked his management of all affairs intrusted to his charge, amply vindicated the general judgment. To these qualities of a robust manhood he added the gentler graces of character which endear men to their fellows. Kind and courteous in manner, mild of temper, and warm and

steadfast in his friendships, — all who knew him bear affectionate testimony to the lovable nature of the man. No higher eulogy can be passed upon him than to say that his sympathies went out spontaneously to all good things, and that his capacity for usefulness found the widest field for its exercise in the trust reposed in him by his fellow men.

Resolved, That we tender to the family of our departed associate the assurance of our profound sympathy with them in their bereavement.



The Board of Directors of the NEW ENGLAND SAFE DEPOSIT AND TRUST COMPANY of Kansas City, Missouri, passed the following resolutions: —

Resolved, That in the death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE this Company has lost one of its founders and promoters, and the Board of Directors one of its most active and efficient members.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Bradlee we have lost the advice and assistance of a man of high integrity, of wide experience, and of extensive influence, who commanded the respect and confidence of all his business associates and of all who knew him.

Resolved, That the President and Secretary sign these resolutions and transmit a copy thereof to the family of Mr. Bradlee.

At a special meeting of the Board of Government of the MASSACHUSETTS CHARITABLE MECHANIC ASSOCIATION, held December 19, 1888, President HAYNES, in opening the meeting, said:—

Gentlemen of the Board of Government: It is a sad occasion that calls us together this afternoon. NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE, a past President, and a sincere friend of the Association, is dead. He was conspicuous for his public spirit, and the loss to the community will be severely felt. To our Association, the loss of such a friend is almost irreparable. He was an officer of the Association for eight years, serving as Trustee, Vice-President, and President. During those years he rendered conscientious and efficient service. At the time of our financial embarrassment, he was one of the largest subscribers to our relief. Mr. Bradlee was a man of broad mind, gentle and affable in disposition, and in his dealings he was always generous and just. In the affairs of men he was, in the true sense of the word, a peacemaker. When there were misunderstandings or discordant views, his was the happy thought that out of seeming conflict brought harmony and peace. He was in a remarkable degree a helpful man. In his desire to serve others, he did not spare himself. His loss is sincerely mourned. His sudden death was a severe shock to his family and friends, and to the community in which he occupied so prominent a place, and with whose in-

terests he was so fully identified. Our kindest sympathy and condolence are extended to his bereaved family in their deep affliction. We, as members of this Association and as individuals, mourn the loss of an associate and a dear friend.

The Secretary then read the following: —

Called together by the announcement of the sudden death of our fellow member, NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE, a citizen of the highest standing, a man of business reputation unexcelled, an adviser of rare ability, an official of unquestioned capacity and integrity, a cherished companion, a true and noble friend, as a neighbor universally esteemed, — an ex-President of this Association whose words and deeds, given gratuitously in our behalf, are recalled with satisfaction and pride by us all, — we meet here at this time in the shadow of a grief which covers, not ourselves only, but this entire community.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Bradlee our community has lost one of its most worthy, exemplary, and valuable citizens; one who in all of the many positions of honor and responsibility in which he has been placed — being tried by that crucial test of character, performance — has never been found wanting, but has thoroughly fulfilled the exacting demands of duty and the highest expectations of his friends. The death of this upright and able man, while yet in the zenith of his usefulness and influence, in the midst of a career as beneficial to his fellows as it was honorable to himself, surrounded by

a wide circle of friends, who felt that in him they were sure of a safe counsellor and a worthy exemplar for our rising generation, this event, so sad and so unexpected to us, calls for the exercise on our part of a measure of that faith in the ordering of all events, whether joyous or grievous, by an overruling Providence, which, in the absence of adversity, we easily profess.

Resolved, That to the members of his family, to whom this bereavement comes with a severity which we may dimly imagine, but cannot realize, we desire to offer our united and cordial sympathy. The inheritance which he has left is indeed "better than great riches." The treasure now laid up beyond the reach of all corroding influences will remain with them, like a pearl of great price, and descend to his children's children; and to the "God of the widow and the fatherless," who only can console and comfort those in the depths of earthly trouble, we commend his well beloved.

These resolutions were passed unanimously by a rising vote.



At the annual meeting of the ROXBURY CLUB, held December, 19, 1888, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

Resolved, That in the public calamity caused by the death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE the Roxbury Club

recognizes that it has especially a share. Early interested in its organization, and its first and thus far its only President, his loss falls upon this Club with peculiar severity. Its members will miss his counsel, which was valuable, and his warm interest in its affairs, cordially and most liberally manifested.

Resolved, That while we recognize the great personal worth of Mr. Bradlee, his distinguished public usefulness, and the general kindness of his heart towards all with whom he came into association, he was endeared to the members of this Club distinctively by the genial sympathy which attended his association here. Always kind, considerate, and thoughtful for others, and constantly studying to promote good feeling and good fellowship among its members, he was a model man in all respects in the position he occupied. His loss to us is a blow of the heaviest character, and one which is individually felt as a misfortune by every member of the Club.

Resolved, That our consolation in this bereavement is in the memory of the many virtues of character illustrated by Mr. Bradlee, and also in the recollection of the pleasant harmony which pervaded all his associations with those brother members who are now left to pay this sincere tribute to one to whom they owe so much.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be presented to the family of Mr. Bradlee.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of CHAUNCY HALL SCHOOL, held March 30, 1889, the following resolutions were passed:—

Resolved, That by the death of NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE, for so many years President of the Chauncy Hall School Corporation, both the Corporation and the School have met with an irreparable loss. His name was a sufficient indorsement of any enterprise, so general was the recognition of his absolute integrity and of his uncommon business powers, wherein energy and promptness were happily blended with caution and sagacity. To his brother directors in any corporation he was a tower of strength, through his genial, unflagging interest, his courteous and undivided attention to the matter in hand, his sound judgment, and his efficient measures; and additionally by the whole weight of his straightforward and well poised character, as self-reliant as it was modest and lovable, which an emergency always found prepared. That his death was felt so heavily by an extraordinary number of business organizations only adds overwhelming evidence of his value as a friend and helper of Chauncy Hall School,—a value which was enhanced by his warm personal regard for the School as that in which he had received his own education.

Resolved, That this expression of our esteem shall be placed upon the records of the Corporation, and a copy be sent to the family of Mr. Bradlee, in testimony of our respectful sympathy.

The following extract is from a communication sent by the President of the Board of Trustees of the ROXBURY LATIN SCHOOL : —

From the time of his election MR. BRADLEE has never faltered in his interest in this ancient School. His time and his judgment were given freely, wisely, cheerfully. In the midst of the most pressing engagements, he was never too busy to counsel with us, and to welcome us with the most gracious hospitality to his beautiful home. Whether in the erection of a new building, or in the care of our property, he was alike unsparing in his attention, and prudent in his advice.

We have had to part with others whose venerable life and failing faculties brought us constant intimations that their work was almost done, but Mr. Bradlee was taken from us in the midst of his activity, and we beg you to receive the sincere acknowledgment of our sympathy with you, and of our own loss.



In the Board of Trustees of the FELLOVES ATHENÆUM, January 2, it was

Resolved, That this Board has experienced a great and almost irreparable loss in the death of our late associate and Treasurer, Mr. BRADLEE. His long and faithful services in the erection of our building, in the

management of our funds, and in the other business of our trust, the great value of his general counsel and advice, and his genial manner, will long be remembered and missed among us.

Resolved, That the Secretary spread upon the record this expression of our appreciation and our deep sense of loss, and transmit a copy of these resolutions to Mrs. Bradlee.

At a meeting of the BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL CLUB, the following resolutions were unanimously passed :—

Whereas, We have recently been called keenly to feel the loss of one who was among the most prominent and the most honored in the profession which we, as a Club, represent, NATHANIEL J. BRADLEE, who, although not a member of the Club, was to it what not another member could be, a shining example, both as a man and an architect, of the possibilities for greatness with gentleness in a character such as his, be it therefore

Resolved, That in losing him, we lose one of the truest friends the younger architects of Boston had, — one who was always ready with kindly advice, judicious approbation, or what material assistance was within his power, to encourage younger workers in the profession which he himself had rendered greater and more honorable by making it his chosen life-work. That, aside from the

loss which, with the community at large, we sustain of a Christian gentleman and an honorable citizen, we, the members of this Club, particularly and personally have the added grief of losing a friend, an encourager, and a guide in our work; be it also

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, with expressions of our sympathy, be transmitted to Mrs. Bradlee.

Extracts from Letters Received.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED.

IF anything can be a partial consolation at such a time, it will be the consciousness that your sense of loss is shared by so many hundreds of his friends, by so many thousands of the best of his fellow citizens; — for it is seldom that a man goes out from among us who was so generally loved and respected, and whose career of usefulness was so broad and extended.

For myself, I shall ever miss his genial friendship, his cordial grasp of the hand, his clear judgment, his wise advice, ever cordially given to me when asked, without haste or apparent regard to his time, so valuable and so fully occupied, and, lastly, his graceful and bounteous hospitality in his own beautiful home. He was very dear to me, far more so, I fear, than he ever knew or suspected.

Why do we wait till it is too late to tell a friend how much we love him!

Dec. 17, 1888, 11 A. M.

I can't express to you in words how sad and depressed I am at *this moment*. I have just heard of the sudden death of my dear friend. It comes upon me so suddenly

that I cannot realize it or comprehend it. I have met him twice within a few hours, and he seemingly so well and happy.

I had met Mr. BRADLEE but a few times, — once only socially, — yet I learned in those few meetings to admire his gentle and courteous, though strong character, and to appreciate why it was that he stood so high among his business associates, as well as with his closer friends and acquaintances.

I knew Mr. BRADLEE so well, and loved him so sincerely, that I feel that one very near and dear to me has been taken away.

His death was sudden, but his whole life was a preparation. Active in all good things, faithful in all work, honest in every act, kindly and full of sympathy to the troubled and the unfortunate, possessed of wonderful capacity to grasp matters in all their bearings, he was leaned upon by men to an extent beyond most others in our midst.

His loss will be felt by hosts of friends to whom he daily gave his wise counsel and advice. I cannot bear to think of losing his genial, warm-hearted greeting, and his daily help.

We have held Mr. BRADLEE in great respect, and although his many duties and ours have prevented our

having frequent intercourse, we shall share with a large circle a sense of personal loss. Such a man is a great loss in any community. How many widows and orphans have trusted in him, and have not been disappointed! We have felt under no small obligation for the daily enjoyment of the attractive grounds which he seemed always happy to have others share with him.

It has been my privilege to know and greatly esteem your departed husband almost from boyhood, although my removal from Boston has denied me the frequent personal greetings that I formerly enjoyed so much.

Nearly forty years ago, I was his associate in the Board of Government of the Boston Young Men's Christian Union, when our ties of friendship were very firm, and such as characterize the earnestness of enthusiastic young men.

When the news of the sad event reached us, it seemed as if we had lost a dear friend from our own household. I never saw that face, whether in life or picture, that there did not beam from it a kindness that was felt, and his voice seemed always to breathe nothing but kindness, and it seems as though we could not part with such a friend. These pleasant memories linger around us and gild the edges of the present cloud with a golden light,

so that we know there is a brightness beyond, — an eternal brightness, realized by him now, and hoped for by us in the future.

It is a benediction in my life to have known such a friend; and I feel stunned and in a dream.

Indeed, how many homes are sad, through the city and elsewhere, and after yourself and immediate friends no one can have cause to mourn more than myself and my daughters for one who was ever ready and willing to give the best advice with so much kindness, patience, and generosity, and we at first entire strangers. Truly we have lost a dear good friend, yet we know "God who doeth all things well" will bless even his death, as he has blessed that useful life, to all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

I want to add my personal tribute to one whose kind friendliness won me at our first meeting, and was ever unfailing. He has left to his children the richest inheritance in the respect and affection of all who were privileged to know him.

You will permit me, I know, . . . to express my sense of Mr. BRADLEE'S invariable kindness and courtesy toward me. During our journey southward last spring,

and while at Altamonte, these characteristics of his were especially shown to my whole family, as well as to myself, and we shall always retain the pleasantest recollection of him.

We shall miss the kindest of neighbors. Because of the exactions of busy lives, our social meetings have been infrequent, but the sense of friendliness which his nearness gave was never dulled. How much we owe him for the generous freedom of his grounds, tendered with a cordiality which, in effect, enlarged our own estate!

My path crossed his more often in the busy streets and offices of the city than here at home, and I know well the public void he leaves. If it was not given him to attain old age, he prematurely achieved all its accompaniments, "as honor, love, obedience, troops of friends."

He has escaped the sufferings of prolonged disease, and the feebleness which comes with years. Regret and pity are not for him, but for the family and friends who are bereaved so sharply. And the memory of a useful and unsullied life is their abiding consolation.

